



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Louis District®

Press Release

Release No. 01-07

Contact: Public Affairs Office
314-331-8002/8068

For Release: **IMMEDIATE** – January 08, 2007

1222 Spruce Street, Saint Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to Honor New Recreation Passes

Saint Louis – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will honor new federal recreation passes at all of its recreation areas as of January 2007.

The new passes – America the Beautiful - the National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands passes – are a result of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act of 2004. The new passes being honored by the Corps are the Senior and Access passes, which duplicate the benefits of existing Golden Age and Golden Access Passports at Corps of Engineers facilities.

While the legislation does not authorize the Corps to sell the new passes, Corps officials have determined that previously issued Golden Age and Golden Access Passports, as well as the new passes, will be honored at all Corps recreation areas.

New passes may be obtained in person at USDA Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management and Fish and Wildlife Service facilities. The new and old passes provide a 50 percent discount to authorized users for day use and camping fees. Although the new passes indicate that they are not honored for camping discounts, the Corps will honor them at Corps recreation facilities for this purpose immediately.

The new passes are available for citizens and permanent residents age 62 or over, or who have qualifying established medical disabilities.

Existing Golden Age and Golden Access paper passes may continue to be used at Corps recreation facilities or may be exchanged for free for the new plastic passes at the other listed facilities.

Additional information about the new recreation passes is available at:
<http://www.recreation.gov/recpass.jsp>

The Corps, which is the largest federal provider of outdoor recreation opportunities, encourages all Americans to enjoy the nation's public lands and waters. The Corps operates more than 2,500 recreation areas at 456 projects (mostly lakes.) It also leases some 1,800 additional sites to state, local authorities or private interests.

Each year more than 25 million Americans visit Corps projects. Many visit more than one area on each visit and more come several times each year. In total, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers records about 375 million uses of recreation facilities annually.

More than fifteen million of those visits in 2006 took place in the St. Louis District.

More information about U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recreation projects nationwide is available at: <http://www.corpslakes.us>